

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for synthesizing cDNA possessing a ~~consecutive sequence~~ starting with a nucleotide adjacent to a cap structure of mRNA 5'-end nucleotide of (dT)_ndG, wherein n=0-5, which method comprises the steps of:

(i) annealing a double-stranded DNA primer and an ~~RNA~~mRNA mixture ~~containing mRNA~~ possessing a cap structure,

(ii) preparing a ~~conjugate of an mRNA/cDNA heteroduplex and a double-stranded DNA primer~~ by synthesizing the first-strand cDNA primed with the double-stranded DNA primer using reverse transcriptase, wherein the 3'-end nucleotide of the first-strand cDNA is dC(dA)_n, wherein n=0-5,

(iii) circularizing ~~the conjugate of the mRNA/cDNA heteroduplex and the double-stranded DNA primer~~ by joining the 3' and 5' ends of the DNA strand containing the first strand cDNA using ligase, and

(iv) replacing the RNA in the mRNA/cDNA heteroduplex with the second-strand cDNA thereby synthesizing the cDNA possessing the 5'-end nucleotide of (dT)_ndG, wherein n=0-5.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the mRNA ~~possessing a cap structure~~ is contained in a cell extract.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the mRNA ~~possessing a cap structure~~ is synthesized by in vitro transcription.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the primer sequence of the double-stranded DNA primer contains a sequence complementary to a partial sequence of the mRNA ~~possessing a cap structure.~~

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the primer sequence of the double-stranded DNA primer contains an oligo dT complementary to a poly(A) sequence of the mRNA

~~possessing a cap structure.~~

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ligase is T4 RNA ligase.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, which comprises the following step between the step (ii) and the step (iii):

(ii') generating a 5'-protruding end or a blunt end at the terminal of the double-stranded DNA primer by cutting ~~the conjugate of the mRNA/cDNA heteroduplex and the double-stranded DNA primer~~ using a restriction enzyme.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8~~1~~, wherein the double-stranded DNA primer contains a replication origin or both a replication origin and a promoter for cDNA expression.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8~~1~~, which further comprises the following step:

(v) incorporating the double-stranded cDNA composed of the first-strand cDNA and the second-strand cDNA into a vector DNA.

11. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A cDNA library that is a population of clones containing double-stranded cDNA synthesized by the method of claim 8~~1~~, of which more than 60% of the cDNA clones possesses a 5'-end nucleotide of (dT)_ndG (n=0-5) followed by a consecutive sequence starting with a nucleotide adjacent to a cap structure of mRNA.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Withdrawn) A double-stranded DNA primer possessing an oligo (dT)_n (n=15-100) as a primer part, in which one terminal part of a primer side has an 8-base recognition restriction

enzyme site RE1, and another terminal part has an 8-base recognition restriction enzyme site RE2 and a restriction enzyme site RE3 generating a 5'- protruding end or a blunt end.

14. (Withdrawn) The double-stranded DNA primer of claim 13, which contains a replication origin or both a replication origin and a promoter for cDNA expression.

15. (Withdrawn) The double-stranded DNA primer of claim 14, which is a vector primer derived from pGCAP10 comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

16. (Withdrawn) A reagent kit for cDNA synthesis, which comprises the double-stranded DNA primer of claim 14, reverse transcriptase and its reaction buffer solution, T4 RNA ligase and its reaction buffer solution, and model mRNA possessing a cap structure.

17. (Withdrawn) A cDNA library that is a population of clones containing double-stranded cDNA synthesized by the method of claim 10, of which more than 60% of the cDNA clones possesses a 5'-end nucleotide of (dT)_nG (n=0-5) followed by a consecutive sequence starting with a nucleotide adjacent to a cap structure of mRNA.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Withdrawn) A reagent kit for cDNA synthesis, which comprises the double-stranded DNA primer of claim 15, reverse transcriptase and its reaction buffer solution, T4 RNA ligase and its reaction buffer solution, and model mRNA possessing a cap structure.